

## DECLARATION COMBINED WITH POWER OF ATTORNEY

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Attorney Docket No. 6567R

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, mailing address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled Absorbent Articles Comprising A Material Having A High Vertical Wicking Capacity  
the specification of which

(check [X] is attached hereto.  
one) [ ] was filed on \_\_\_\_\_ as United States Application No. or  
PCT International Application Serial No. \_\_\_\_\_  
and was amended on \_\_\_\_\_ (if applicable)

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56, including for continuation-in-part applications, material information which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of the continuation-in-part application.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under 35 U.S.C. §119(a)-(d) or §365(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate, or §365(a) of any PCT International application which designated at least one country other than the United States of America, listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate, or of any PCT international application having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

<u>Prior Foreign Application(s)</u>		<u>Priority Claimed</u>		
<u>(Number)</u>	<u>(Country)</u>	<u>(Day/Month/Year Filed)</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. §119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below.

<u>Application Serial No.</u>	<u>Filing Date</u>	<u>Application Serial No.</u>	<u>Filing Date</u>

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. §120 of any United States application(s), or §365(c) of any PCT International application designating the United States of America, listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States or PCT International application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. §112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in Title 37 C.F.R. §1.56 which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

<u>U.S. Parent Application Number</u>	<u>PCT Parent Number</u>	<u>Parent Filing Date (MM/DD/YYYY)</u>	<u>Parent Patent Number (If applicable)</u>
09/431,322		November 2, 1999	

As named inventor, I hereby appoint the following registered practitioner(s) to prosecute this application and transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith:

<u>Atty Name</u>	<u>Atty Reg Number.</u>	<u>Associate Power of Attorney Attached</u>
Joan B. Tucker	43,962	[ ] Yes [X] No
David M. Weirich	38,361	[ ] Yes [X] No
Ken K. Patel	33,988	[ ] Yes [X] No
Edward J. Milbrada	40,090	[ ] Yes [X] No
Steven W. Miller	31,984	[ ] Yes [X] No
T. David Reed	32,931	[ ] Yes [X] No
Timothy B. Guffey	41,048	[ ] Yes [X] No

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I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Full name of sole or first joint inventor Gary Dean LaVon  
Inventor's signature \_\_\_\_\_

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